



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health and Family Services

Jim Doyle, Governor
Helene Nelson, Secretary

Contact: Carla Vigue, Communications Officer
608-266-5862

STATE HOTLINES STAFFED DURING MEDICARE PART D CHANGE

Recipients Encouraged to Review Drug Plans

(Madison – December 30, 2005) The new federal Medicare Part D drug benefit will start January 1, 2006, and on that date, more than 110,000 Wisconsin Medicaid recipients will be transitioned from Medicaid to Medicare Part D.

The Department of Health and Family Services has made special plans to staff the Wisconsin Medicaid Recipient Services and Provider Services hotline on January 1st and January 2nd.

WI Medicaid Recipient Services	Medicaid Recipients	1-800-362-3002
WI Medicaid Provider Services	Pharmacies	1-800-947-9627

A new federal law requires that dual eligible individuals – people who receive both Medicaid and Medicare benefits – now get their prescription drugs **only** through Medicare Part D. Starting January 1, 2006, recipients will need to take their Medicare Part D card to the pharmacy in order to get prescriptions filled.

The federal government sent a letter to dual eligibles telling them the Medicare drug plan they would automatically be enrolled in if they did not choose a Medicare drug plan on their own by December 31, 2005. The Department also sent a letter notifying dual eligible persons of the benefit change.

Below are other contacts for questions about transitioning from Medicaid drug coverage to Medicare Part D:

Medicare – federal hotline	Medicare Recipients	1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or www.medicare.gov/
WI Prescription Drug Helpline (Sponsored by Coalition of WI Aging Groups' Elder Law Center)	Medicare recipients age 60 and older	1-866-456-8211
WI Disability Drug Benefit Helpline (Sponsored by WI Coalition for Advocacy)	Persons under age 60 who receive Medicare because of a disability	1-800-926-4862
County Department on Aging – Elderly Benefit Specialist	Age 60 and older	Local number

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